

REMARKS

Claims 1-26 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 7-10, 12-20, 24, and 25 have been allowed. Claims 11 and 26 have been cancelled by this amendment. Therefore, claims 5, 6, 21, 22, and 23 are at issue.

Claims 5, 6, 11, and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. In view of the amendments to the claims, it is submitted that the rejections have been overcome and should be withdrawn. The rejection of claim 11 is moot in view of the cancellation of claim 11.

Nonelected claim 26 also has been cancelled, without prejudice to filing a divisional application directed to the subject matter of that claim.

Claims 5 and 6 have been rewritten to clearly indicate that the fluorosulfide $R_f-(CH_2)_nS-R$ contains at least 35% to about 70%, by weight, fluorine. See specification, page 6, line 25 through page 7 line 2 for the definition of a fluorosulfide. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 5 and 6 fully comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 21 has been amended to clarify the claim. The claim now recites that the hydroborated alkene or alkyne of claim 12 is oxidized to an alcohol corresponding to the alkene or alkyne. Claim 22 has been amended to correct the pendency of the claims. Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 21 and 22 comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 23 has been amended to recite that the organic functionality is reducible. Claim 24 recites specific, nonlimiting reducible organic functionalities. The functionalities recited in claim 24 are those exemplified in the specification. However, persons skilled in the art are well aware of other reducible organic groups capable of reduction by the claimed fluororous borane-sulfide. Persons skilled in the art have sufficient guidance to determine the metes and bounds of the invention, and how to practice the invention.

Furthermore, any experimentation to determine whether an organic functionality is reducible by a claimed fluororous borane-sulfide is not undue, merely requiring a simple reaction as set forth in the specification. To require applicants to limit claim 23 to only those reducible functionalities set forth in the examples of the specification is unduly restrictive and contrary to the policy behind 35 U.S.C. §112, i.e., an early disclosure of an invention without depriving inventors of the full scope of their invention. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 23 fully complies with 35 U.S.C. §112, and that the rejection should be withdrawn.

All claims are now in a form for allowance. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Should the examiner wish to discuss the foregoing, or any matter of form in an effort to advance this application toward allowance, the examiner is

urged to telephone the undersigned at the indicated number.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN LLP

By



James J. Napoli
(Registration No. 32,361)
Attorneys for Applicants
6300 Sears Tower
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 474-6300

Chicago, Illinois
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